

HOLIDAY TRADE UNPARALLELED

Demands for a Higher Class of Goods
Than Usual.

PRICES SHOW GREAT STRENGTH

War News Caused a Stamp Early in
the Week in Cotton, But Close
Found Actual Staple Only
Slightly Below Opening.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Bradstreet's statement of trade-to-morrow will say:

Holiday trade activity, of course reaches its highest development during the week now drawing to a close and it is significant of the prosperous conditions underlying the general business situation that reports almost without exception point to a volume of business having few if any parallels in the previous years. Another significant feature developed also is that the demand for such goods embraces a higher class and a more expensive grade of materials, a conclusion among trade reporters being that a larger buying capacity exists now than in any previous year of the country's history.

This favorable condition exists in face of the fact that the weather conditions have not altogether favored railroad distribution of winter goods, the result being less activity in purely retail lines than had been looked for, though comparisons with a year ago are generally favorable.

WHOLESALE TRADE

Wholesale trade at this season usually shows a quietening tendency, but it is a question whether this tendency is as marked this year as in former periods. To the advanced stage of the season chiefly, and perhaps also to the sentimental effect growing out of stringent money conditions in speculative lines, may be charged some of the quietness noted.

As above intimated, however, this is less marked than in ordinary years. Just how much influence the bank clearings has been exercised in money market developments and what effect anticipatory payments on January 1st, estimated to aggregate \$600,000,000, may have had upon bank clearings it would be hard to state accurately. Prices generally have shown exceptional strength, the great majority of staple quotations remaining unchanged as the result of the week's operations. Exceptions to this might be instances in flour, pork, coffee and lead, which are higher, while copper, cotton and tin are lower. War news and light money combined caused a sharp early in the week in cotton, but the close found prices of actual staple, spot cotton only slightly below the opening. The interior movement of cotton has failed to expand, and there are indications that foreign buyers covered heavily at the decline.

WHEAT AND FLOUR.

Wheat, including flour, shipments for the week, 2,515,714 bushels, sagained 2,558,612 bushels last week, 5,653,231 bushels in the corresponding week of 1898; 4,577,539 bushels in 1897, 2,311,762 in 1896, and 3,457,961 in 1895.

Since July 1st this season, the exports of wheat aggregate 10,371,690 bushels, against 15,236,084 last year and 12,566,756 in 1895.

Corn exports for the week aggregate 2,980,000 bushels, against 4,617,185 last week, 4,463,675 in this week a year ago, 3,879,011 in 1897; 2,668,369 bushels in 1896, and 1,883,236 in 1895. Since July 1st this season, corn exports aggregate 20,638,000 bushels, against 27,290,994 during the same period year ago, and 26,294,294 in 1897-98.

Business failures are fewer than ordinary at this season, though exceptional money conditions have caused some few heavy embarrassments, and the ensuing liabilities will swell the month's totals considerably. The total number of failures this week is 211, as compared with 211 last week, 221 in this week a year ago, and 289 in 1897.

Canadian failures for the week number 29, as compared with 28 last week, 31 in this week a year ago, and 36 in 1897.

WILL OPEN BRIDGE CHRISTMAS.

The Commissioners of Rockbridge Buy County Bonds.

LEXINGTON, VA., Dec. 22.—Special.—The contractors for the erection of the splendid new iron bridge across James river at Greene's announce that the bridge will be completed and open for travel next Monday—Christmas morning. This will be quite an interesting Christmas gift for the inhabitants of that vicinity.

The Christmas holidays for the students of Washington and Lee University begin with today, the closing of the Christmas examinations and ends the morning of January 6th. Most of the students have already left for the holidays.

The Virginia Military Institute cadets will have an unusual Christmas holiday this season, but all due to the accident of the season, Christmas coming on Monday, the previous day Sunday, and a half holiday, as usual on each Saturday, make a combined holiday of two and a half days.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Deacon, of Oak Dale, have issued invitations to the marriage of their daughter, Mattie Virginia Deacon, to Andrew W. Morrison, of Colbertown. The ceremony will be performed in Oxford church on next Wednesday, December 27th, at 3 o'clock P. M.

W. C. Stuart, J. Preston Moore and William T. Shields, commissioners of the board ofinking bonds for the county, have cancelled \$2,000 worth of railroads recently purchased by the county treasurer, and instructed him to make purchase of \$2,500 worth more of the bonds for cancellation at an early date.

The present indebtedness of this county is \$2,000 of bonds for the building of the new county court-house, and \$31,000 of railroad bonds, exclusive of the last mentioned purchase to be made.

The champion hog of Rockbridge county was one killed near Bell's Valley by S. M. Davyson, which tipped the beam at 30 pounds, net.

NEW RAPPAHANNOCK BRIDGE.

Splendid Structure Takes Place of Old Bridge Without Stop of Traffic.

FREDERICKSBURG, VA., Dec. 22.—Special.—The beautiful new modern steel and iron bridge of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potowmack railroad, which spans the Rappahannock here, is practically completed, though the laying of some new ties, building the walkway and finishing up generally, will keep the forces employed about ten days longer.

The bridge is 99 feet long and four times as strong as the iron structure it supplants.

A force of thirty men has been engaged in building the bridge since October 15th under the supervision of Mr. H. G. Reynolds, foreman in charge assisted by Mr. Frank Strode.

The old bridge was removed by degrees and the new one put in its place without interrupting the great amount of travel over the line. There were no accidents to any of the men, though the work at times was very dangerous.

CALL TO PASTORS.

The Estate Adjoining Chatham on Rappahannock Sold.

FREDERICKSBURG, VA., Dec. 22.—Special.—Oakland Baptist church, in King George county, has extended a call to

Rev. H. Norman Luck, of Caroline county.

Rev. H. F. Jones has resigned as pastor of Shiloh Baptist church, in King George county, and the name has been accepted.

The handsome residence and farm on the opposite side of the Rappahannock, adjoining Chatham, owned by John White, has been sold to Fleming O. Bailey, of Griffin, Ga., who, with his family, will make it his home.

CARROLL COUNTY COURT.

Trial of Dixie Bolt's Slayers Postponed

Liquor Cases.

WILLISVILLE, VA., Dec. 20.—Special.—County court is in session and the case against "Cap" Hardy and "Dop" Horton for killing Dixie Bolt with a skilet about a month ago has just been called and passed until to-morrow morning. The prisoners were arraigned and elected to be tried separately when the motion of the Commonwealth's Attorney, the case against Hardy was set for trial first. The defendant moved for a continuance on the ground of the absence of his most important witness, who, it is claimed, is sick and unable to attend the court at this term. The Commonwealth's Attorney resisted the motion for a continuance and charged that the alleged sickness of this absent witness is feigned. The court ordered the sheriff to summon a physician and provide suitable conveyance, and go to this witness home and, if his condition will permit, bring him to court. This witness is the wife of defendant Hardy. At a late hour night the physician, who accompanied the sheriff, had returned and reported this witness too ill to be brought to court. This will necessitate a continuance of both cases, which is very disappointing to the prosecution, as every effort had been made to have a trial at this term, and the Commonwealth's Attorney seemed confident of securing a conviction.

Considerable interest has been manifested in this case, and to-night the jail is heavily guarded and the sheriff has been compelled to return to the jail of Pulaski county, where they have been for some time for safe keeping it being feared lynching would be attempted if they were kept in jail here.

This was the term for a regular grand jury, which was in session two days. It made several indictments for violations of the internal revenue laws. It is a very difficult matter to get witnesses to testify before the grand jury against the liquor men, and it is to be regretted that we do not have a law making a United States license to sell liquor by retail prima facie evidence that the person so licensed is retailing liquor at the place so licensed.

If this was the law a person holding a license under the United States government might be indicted, and the burden of proof would be upon him to show he was not so engaged in the illicit traffic of liquor.

LYING IN WAIT.

About 1 o'clock this morning, as the three, with loaded revolvers cocked, were waiting in the dark inside the store, a man came in through the window and started for the till. They held him till turned and they opened fire on him, firing eleven shots at close range. But two took effect, one in the leg and the other under the shoulder, the latter causing death in about ten minutes. The burglar proved to be a negro by the name of Phil Williams, known as the "Black Kid."

The three men were technically placed under arrest and detained at the police station until later in the morning, when an inquest was held, the verdict being that the burglar came to his death through secured and was being requested so to do by the note-holder. I will sell at public auction, on the premises, on

SATURDAY, DEC. 23, 1899.

at 3 o'clock P. M., the property described in said deed, fronting 25 feet on the north side of the street, running back 10 feet 6 inches to an alley. Improvements consist of a good store and dwelling combined.

TERMS: Cash, or as expenses of sale and a balance due of \$1,000, with interest thereon from 12th December, 1898; the residue as may be named in the deed of sale.

A. J. CHEWING,
EDWARD S. ROSE,
debt

By Geo. E. Crawford & Co.,
Real Estate Auctioneers.

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF THAT DESIRABLE STORE AND DWELLING
ON THE CORNER OF 10TH AND
SOUTH CHERRY STREET

TO-NIGHT AT 8:15.
MATINEE TO-DAY AT 2:30

Secure seats now for Christmas week. Special
Matinee Christmas Day.

NEARLY A RIOT
IN NEWPORT NEWS

Rockets Infested by a Gang of
Burglars.

SPECIAL OFFICERS SHOT ONE

The Negroes Become Incensed and
Gather in Large Numbers Amid
a Scene of Noise and Disturb-

ance—One Man Shot.

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Burglars in Clifton Forge

CLIFTON FORGE, VA., Dec. 22.—Special.—Thieves broke in J. R. Pendleton's hardware store last night and secured about \$25 worth of goods. The thief, who was the son of the store keeper, was captured by the police, who traced him to a house in the neighborhood.

When the store keeper heard of the theft, he went down stairs to investigate the noise. They went out the door just as he caught sight of them. The officers are on the track of the thieves.

GOODS MANUFACTURED BY THE
CLOTHING COMPANY

WANTED MAN THOROUGHLY EX-
PERIODIC IN THE MANUFACTURE OF POW-
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